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Measures to eliminate international terrorism

The United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy

Identical letters dated 2 August 2012 from the Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, I should like to convey to you the following:

The truth surrounding the events that began some one and a half years ago in Syria and the true identity of the parties behind them is becoming increasingly clear. The campaign being waged against Syria and the pressure being exerted on it by certain States, at the forefront of which are the United States of America, France, Britain and Turkey, serve to clarify the picture and bring to light the hidden scheme aimed at undermining Syria and the achievements of its people. Moreover, the actions of Saudi Arabia and Qatar, which have financed and executed the schemes of the aforementioned and other States, reveal the falseness of the claims and slogans that underlie the war being waged against Syria. Despite the misleading campaign being waged against Syria by those parties and others, the plain truth is that the aim is to alter the balance in the region and force its countries to comply with the hegemonic policies and bend to the will of those Western States, at the expense of the democratic principles and dignity of their peoples and the political and economic reforms they are demanding. What is most dangerous of all, particularly in the case of the Syrian Arab Republic, is the application of double standards by the above-mentioned States, including the funding of terrorist groups that are committing barbaric acts in Syria.

Although it is not too difficult to prove what we have just stated, we should like to draw attention, for example, to the decision taken by the American administration a few days ago authorizing the United States Treasury to provide direct financial aid to the so-called Free Syrian Army, which is a collection of armed terrorist groups that are recognized to have committed crimes against thousands of innocent civilians in Syria. This has been confirmed by the United Nations

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Supervision Mission in the Syrian Arab Republic, as well as several international and non-governmental organizations that are monitoring the ongoing events in Syria. Pursuant to the above-mentioned authorization, the funds that the United States will give to the so-called Free Syrian Army and other Syrian parties will be used to pay fighters' salaries and purchase arms. Moreover, the Governments of the United States and France have officially announced that they are providing the Syrian terrorists with modern communication equipment, a move that, in fact, will facilitate the criminal operations the terrorist groups are conducting with the aim of heightening the crisis in Syria. It is no secret that Saudi Arabia, Qatar and Turkey are harbouring, funding and arming the armed terrorist groups. In an interview on 29 July 2012, the Minister for Foreign Affairs of France, Laurent Fabius, whose country currently holds the presidency of the Security Council, said that Saudi Arabia and Qatar were providing military and financial support to the terrorist groups. Those two States, in particular, have emphasized the necessity of providing military and financial support to the terrorist groups at several international conferences and in interviews. We would like to recall that those parties are also collecting donations for the very same groups to which successive American administrations have been opposed and from which they have sough to cut off funding because such funding was being and continues to be used to support many terrorist groups around the world.

Those who are shedding tears over what is occurring in Aleppo and demanding that the Security Council should be convened are the very same parties that caused the tragedy through their support of terrorism and their arming of terrorist groups. The Government of Turkey has played a crucial role in that regard by opening wide its airports and borders to receive Al-Qaida terrorists, salafists and jihadists. It has accorded them every facility and dispatched them across its borders into Syria. In addition to hosting the offices of the terrorist groups, including the so-called Free Syrian Army, Turkey has established within its territory military operations centres that are run by the intelligence services of Israel, the United States, Saudi Arabia and Qatar. Those centres are being used to oversee the battles that are being waged by the terrorists against Syrian citizens in Aleppo and other Syrian cities and the massacres the terrorists are perpetrating after entering Syria in large numbers.

Not only does Turkey fund, arm and harbour the terrorists and treat them in its hospitals, but the majority of the camps established by Turkey for the alleged purpose of receiving Syrian refugees have become military centres and assembly points for the terrorists prior to their being dispatched to Syria in order to commit their heinous crimes.

The support and financing offered by those countries is contrary to Security Council resolutions concerning counter-terrorism and is evidence of their double standards, which will reflect negatively, in the first place, on the countries that apply those standards, as well as the other countries of the world. Syria once again calls on the Security Council to act in accordance with its relevant resolutions and bring pressure to bear on those countries to stop supporting, arming and funding the terrorist groups and facilitating their operations.

Syria reiterates that it respects the plan of Mr. Kofi Annan, the Special Envoy. It also welcomes the outcome of the meeting that took place in Geneva on 30 June 2012 and the understandings that were reached by the Special Envoy for Syria and the leadership of the Syrian Arab Republic on 8 June 2012, with a view to ending the killing of Syrians and initiating a national dialogue aimed at achieving the aspirations and hopes of the Syrian people.

(*Signed*) Bashar **Ja'afari**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative